Policy to Complete on Going Irrigation Projects

1656. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have evolved and policy on the need to complete immediately all the on going major and medium irrigation projects in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether any foreign financial aid has been sought for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RERSOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) :

(a) to (c) No, Sir. However, in view of the large number of major and medium projects spilling over from previous plans to Eighth Plan, the major strategy envisaged during the 8th Plan period is to overcome the single malady of time and cost overruns by emphasis on completion of projects where expenditure level is 75% or above and to achieve better utilisation for completed projects.

For expeditious completion of some of the nationally important irrigation projects in the country, it was contemplated to provide a special Central assistance to the States during the 8th plan period. Due to resource constraints, the Planning Commission did not accept the proposal and suggested that the issue of funding the National Projects be first discussed with the States as the overall national resource availability for irrigation sector is not going to change thereby. Accordingly, a series of meetings were held with the concerned State Governments who did not agree to the proposal of earmarking or setting aside any part of their plan fund.

A number of on-going projects are receiving external assistance from the World Bank and other agencies. The major source of external assistance for the irrigation sector has been the World Bank.

Controlling Floods in The Rivers of Gujarat

1657. SHRI KANASINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Gujarat has submitted any proposal to the Central Government for controlling devastating floods in the rivers of the State cansed by the heavy rains during this year;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ;

(c) what decision has been taken by the Central Government thereon together with the amount earmarked for this scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.K. THUNGON) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

सिंचित क्षेत्र का राष्ट्रीय औसत प्रतिशत

1658. **श्री राधव जी : क्या जल संसाधन मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कुल कृषि योग्य क्षेत्रफल में सिंचित क्षेत्र का राष्ट्रीय औसत प्रतिशत कितना है ;

(ख) किन-किन राज्यों में सिंचित क्षेत्र प्रतिशत राष्ट्रीय औसत प्रतिशत से कम है और इन राज्यों के सिंचित क्षेत्र की प्रतिशतता का राज्यवार ब्यौरा क्या है ; और

(ग) क्या इन राज्यों में सिंचाई सुविधाओं में वृद्धि करने की कोई योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है, यदि हां तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है और यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण है ?

शहरी विकास मंत्रालय में तथा जल संसाधन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री पी. के. थुंगन) : (क) कृषि मंत्रालय की "भूमि उपयोग सांख्यिकी 1990-91" (अनन्तिम) में उपलब्ध नवीनतम सूचना के अनुसार वर्ष 1990-91 के दौरान कुल कृषि योग्य क्षेत्र की तुलना में कुल निवल सिंचित क्षेत्र का राष्ट्रीय औसत प्रतिशत **25.7** है ।